

CONSUMER ALERT



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RESIDENTS URGED TO BE ON LOOKOUT FOR REPORTED SOLICITATION SCAMS

Attorney General Beau Biden's Consumer Protection Unit warns consumers about a wave of solicitation scams that have been reported in the Greenville area. Several individuals, described as teenagers to early 20-year-olds, have been going door-to-door, soliciting donations for their "sports team(s)" to attend various sporting events. Residents report that the solicitors have employed the following tactics in seeking monetary donations:

- Making claims that they are sponsoring children at A.I. DuPont
- Displaying checks written by local residents made payable to M.F.A. (Marquis Fulfillment Agency LLC) – a known scam
- Making claims to have lived in Westover Hills for several years
- Claiming that they will work for the donation in an attempt to gain access to the home
- Making statements such as "You know my mother. The woman always walking in the neighborhood with brown hair."
- Asking if residents will be home 4th of July and inviting them to a neighborhood party

"Unfortunately, a scam artist can be any age and can use youth to their advantage," stated Timothy Mullaney, Director of the Attorney General's Fraud and Consumer Protection Division. "Delawareans need to be aware that these scammers can be just as malicious as adult fraudsters, and should be vigilant against this type of crime."

Follow these tips to avoid becoming a victim of solicitation scams:

- Never donate money to someone you do not know or have not independently verified their identity and that the organization they are soliciting on behalf of is a legitimate not-for-profit.
- Do not give out any of your personal information to anyone.
- Beware of callers requesting information about times that you will be away from home.

If you believe that you or someone you know is a victim of this scam, please contact your local police. English and Spanish-speaking consumers may also call the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Hotline at 800-220-5424 to file a complaint.